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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Joseph S. ECKERLE et al.

Group Art Unit: 3736

Application No.: 10/080,703 ✓

Examiner: R. NASSER

Filed: February 25, 2002

Docket No.: 105270

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR MEASURING PULSE WAVE VELOCITY AND
AUGMENTATION INDEX

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

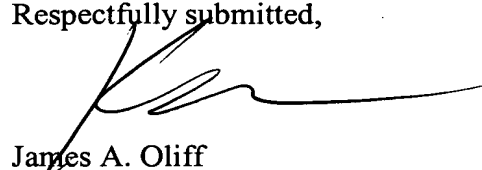
Sir:

In reply to the March 23, , 2004 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally
elect Group I, claims 1-6, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-23 is sufficiently
related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would
encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully
submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without
serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an
entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the
merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis
added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in
order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by
the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 7, 2004

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